

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.121, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below.

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as set forth below.

On page 5 after line 10 before current line 11, please add the following paragraph:

“The polyvinyl alcohol solution may have a concentration of 4 to 30 wt. %, exclusive of the additive and exclusive of the biologically active material. The polyvinyl alcohol solution may especially have a concentration of 6 to 16 wt. %, exclusive of the additive and exclusive of the biologically active material.”

At page 7 after line 12 and before current line 13, please add the following:

“The gel substance form may have a diameter that is at least double a height of a gel substance. The gel substance form may have a diameter of at least one millimeter and a height in a range between 0.1 and 1 millimeter. The gel substance form may have a diameter in a range between 2 millimeters and 4 millimeters and a height in a range between 0.2 millimeters and 0.4 millimeters.”

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as set forth below.

1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a bio-catalyst, comprising the following steps:
 - a) utilizing an aqueous polyvinyl alcohol solution wherein the polyvinyl alcohol has a degree of hydrolysis of at least 98 mol%;
 - b) dissolving an additive in the aqueous polyvinyl alcohol solution which, if the overall solution is ~~concentrated~~ dehydrated, forms a finely distributed aqueous phase separated from the polyvinyl alcohol solution;